IN THE CLAIMS

Kindly amend the claims to read as follows.

1. (previously presented): Cationic dye of formula (1)

$$\begin{bmatrix} R_1 \\ N \\ N \\ N \\ R_1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} R_2 \\ R_3 \end{bmatrix}$$
 (1)

wherein

R₁ is an unsubstituted or substituted C₁-C₁₄alkyl or an aryl radical;

X is an anion;

 R_3 is an unsubstituted or substituted C_1 - C_{14} alkyl, aryl radical, C_1 - C_6 alkoxy, cyanide, nitro or halide; n is 1 or 2; and

if n is 1, then R_2 is hydrogen, unsubstituted or substituted $C_1\text{-}C_{14}$ alkyl; or

if n is 2, then R₂ is an unsubstituted or substituted C₁-C₁₄alkylene.

- 2. (original): Cationic dye according to claim 1, wherein R₁ is methyl.
- 3. (previously presented): Cationic dye according to claim 1, wherein R₁ is methyl,

n is 2, and

 R_2 is a substituted or unsubstituted C_1 - C_8 alkylene.

4. (previously presented): Cationic dye according to claim 1, wherein

R₁ is methyl,

n is 1, and

R₂ is a substituted or unsubstituted C₁-C₁₂alkyl.

5-6. (cancelled).

7. (previously presented): A process for the preparation of cationic dyes of formula (1) as defined in claim 1, comprising

bringing a compound of formula (18)

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
 & R_1 \\
 & R_7 \\
 & R_1 \\
 & R_3
\end{array}$$
(18)

wherein

R₇ is C₁-C₆alkoxy or halide,

R₁ is an unsubstituted or substituted C₁-C₁₄alkyl or an aryl radical;

X is an anion;

 R_3 is an unsubstituted or substituted C_1 - C_{14} alkyl, aryl radical, C_1 - C_6 alkoxy, cyanide, nitro or halide; into contact with an amine of formula (19)

$$\begin{bmatrix} H_2N & \\ & R_2 \end{bmatrix}$$
 (19)

wherein

n is 1 or 2; and

if n is 1, then R₂ is hydrogen, unsubstituted or substituted C₁-C₁₄alkyl; or

if n is 2, then R₂ is an unsubstituted or substituted C₁-C₁₄alkylene.

8-10. (cancelled).

- 11. (previously presented): A composition comprising at least a single dye of formula (1) as defined in claim 1 and an adjuvant.
- 12. (original): A composition according to claim 11 comprising in addition at least a single further direct dye and/or an oxidative agent.

- 13. (original): A composition according to claim 11 comprising in addition at least a single oxidative dye and/or; at least a single oxidative dye and an oxidative agent.
- 14. (previously presented): A composition according to claim 11, in the form of a shampoo, conditioner, gel or emulsion.
- 15. (previously presented): A method of dyeing organic material, that comprises bringing into contact with the organic material at least a single dye of formula (1) according to claim 1 and, optionally, a further dye.
- 16. (previously presented): A method according to claim 15, which comprises dyeing or tinting human hair.
- 17. (currently amended): A method for dyeing human hair or strands, that comprises contacting the hair <u>or strands</u> with at least a single dye of formula (1) as defined in claim 1, and an oxidative agent and, optionally, a further direct dye.
- 18. (previously presented): A method for dyeing human hair, that comprises contacting the hair with at least a single cationic dye of formula (1) as defined in claim 1, and at least a single oxidative dye; or contacting the hair with a cationic dye of formula (1) as defined in claim 1, and at least a single oxidative dye and an oxidative agent.
- 19. (currently amended): A method for dyeing human hair, that comprises contacting the hair with a compound of formula (18) or formula (21) as defined in claim 6, and at least a single oxidative dye; or contacting the hair with a compound of formula (18) or formula (21) as defined in claim 6, and at least a single oxidative dye and an oxidative agent.

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
 & R_1 \\
 & R_7 \\
 & R_1 \\
 & X^- \\
 & R_3
\end{array}$$
(18)

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wherein

R₇ is C₁-C₆alkoxy or halide, and

X is an anion,

 R_3 is an unsubstituted or substituted C_1 - C_{14} alkyl, aryl radical, C_1 - C_6 alkoxy, cyanid cyanide, nitro or halide, and

R₁ is an unsubstituted or substituted C₁-C₁₄alkyl or an aryl radical;

<u>or</u>

the compound of formula (21)

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
 & F \\
 & N \\
 & N \\
 & N \\
 & & X^{-}
\end{array}$$
(21).

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